

**MINUTES OF THE  
SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 30 West House Building, State Capitol Complex

February 11, 2014 AM

**Members Present:** Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Co-Chair  
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove, Co-Chair  
Rep. Daniel McCay, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Deidre M. Henderson  
Sen. Luz Robles  
Sen. Evan J. Vickers  
Sen. Todd Weiler  
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck  
Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove  
Rep. Paul Ray  
Rep. Edward H. Redd  
Rep. Marc K. Roberts  
Rep. Earl D. Tanner

**Members Absent:** Sen. Peter C. Knudson  
President Wayne L. Niederhauser  
Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa  
Rep. Brad L. Dee

**Staff Present:** Mr. Russell T. Frandsen, Fiscal Analyst  
Mr. Stephen C. Jardine, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Paula Winter, Secretary

**Note:** A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**0. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Christensen called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

**1. Request for Appropriation – Increase Nursing Home Medicaid Rates**

Dirk Anjewierden, Executive Director, Utah Health Care Association, requested \$2,000,000. He addressed the shortfall in the nursing homes and explained the situation. He reported on their stewardship of funds. He also presented a request for a 3% inflationary increase for the immediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled. However, it is being proposed that it be funded through their provider assessment which there is still room for under their cap. This would mean it would cost no additional state General Fund. He explained that appropriation would still need to be made under this Committee to authorize the Department of Health to take care of the increase.

Sen. Christensen asked for clarification on where they are within the cap and explained how the matching funds work to increase the cap.

**2. Request for Appropriation (Sen. Christensen) – Primary Care Grants**

Sen. Christensen explained this request for \$2,000,000 for charity care in the state. He took some time to speak about Medicaid expansion and continued to explain the request.

**3. Building Blocks – Department of Human Services**

Ann Silverberg Williamson, Executive Director, Department of Human Services introduced the 5 building blocks:

**1) DSPD Mandated Additional Needs**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001936.pdf>

**\$1.2 million**

**2) Youth Aging Out of DCFS Court Ordered Services**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001939.pdf>

**\$1.7 million**

**3) Disabilities Waiting List**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001855.pdf>

**\$460,500**

**4) Adult Protective Services Workers**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001858.pdf>

**\$1 million**

**5) Utah State Hospital Replace Loss of Medicaid Funding**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001848.pdf>

**\$426,000**

Dallas Earnshaw, Superintendent, Utah State Hospital, spoke on request #5 and emphasized that this request is not for new money but the purpose is to replace the loss of Medicaid revenues at the Hospital. He referred to the table provided. Mr. Earnshaw addressed the performance measures which indicate they are doing well according to the data they have submitted to the National Research Institute.

Sen. Christensen asked Mr. Earnshaw to comment on the cost allocation methodology and why Medicaid funding is being lost. Mr. Earnshaw explained the process of funding and how the determination is made. Sen. Christensen inquired what would happen if the building block was not

obtained and Mr. Earnshaw responded that services would be lost to about 50 people.

Rep. Redd asked for information on the number of beds in the hospital and Mr. Earnshaw responded that there are 352 beds. There continued to be a discussion of how the beds are used in the hospital and Rep. Redd spoke in favor of the services at the hospital.

Paul Smith, Director, Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD), continued through 3 building blocks and indicated they all deal with service delivery. He first addressed #1 the Mandated Additional Needs building block. He explained the 3 needs of the people. Mr. Smith proceeded to #2 the Youth aging out of DCFS building block. They are requesting an appropriation to pick up the portion of the state match that will allow them to stay in the waiver program. The next building Mr. Smith discussed was #3 Disabilities waiting list. He shared information about the wait time and the number waiting along with other information.

Sen. Christensen asked if there was a ranking list to determine respite care or if it was first-come-first-served. Mr. Smith responded that there is not a ranked list. Sen. Christensen stated that some who call their senator seem to receive respite care when others do not receive it. Sen. Christensen suggested that a system be established to evaluate for respite care according to the evaluation. Mr. Smith referenced SB 259 and what it created for respite care. Sen. Christensen shared an anecdotal story.

Rep. Cosgrove commented on those on the waiting list and gave an example from a constituent. He made a plea for these families and asked what can they be told and what else can be done besides call your legislator.

Sen. Christensen remarked that there will always be those on the waiting list and the needs of those and others that are dying because the needs are never fully funded.

Ms. Williamson responded about the abilities of Mr. Smith and the hospital and suggested that early intervention and support is important.

Nels Holmgren, Division of Aging and Adult Services discussed Adult Protective Services (APS), explained they are looking for 2 investigators in southern Utah and central Utah and one intake person.

Rep. Chavez-Houck commended the Division on the thoroughness of the budget submitted and emphasized the effective work done by Adult Protective Services.

**4. What options are available for Foster Care youth who age out with nowhere to go**

Jennifer Larsen, Adolescent Services Director, Transition to Adult Living Specialist, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), gave a background of studies done and information gained. She spoke about 4 areas of support that are critical to youth: 1) Permanent connections, 2) Tangible support, 3) Positive social interaction, and 4) Social capital - who do they know and what do they have. She continued to enumerate the services given to the youth in 4 areas. She also stated that when these youth age out of receiving services they are then required to do an opt-in in order to continue to receive services.

Sen. Christensen asked for a walk through of a child who turns 18. Ms. Larsen explained the process and she and Sen. Christensen continued to converse about various situations. Brent Platt, Director, DCFS, commented on the situation and stated that judges often will have children stay in the homes until they are 21 and there is a transition plan.

Rep. Cosgrove asked if the number of individuals is kept track of and are they given additional resources when they leave the program totally. Ms. Larsen replied that children are surveyed at 17, then 19, and again at 21. She continued to give percentages of those who have been surveyed and their situations.

**5. Diversion Efforts Regarding the Mentally Ill**

Doug Thomas, Director, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health,

Department of Human Services, introduced several others to explain why Utah received an A+ on the recent nationwide report regarding mental health diversion practices. He shared information about Crisis Intervention Training (CIT).

Alan Rice, Clinical Director, Mental Health Court, talked about the need for services for mental health through the mental health court and the history of the mental health courts.

Mental Health Diversion Practices: A Survey of the States Treatment Advocacy Center:

<http://ww1.prweb.com/prfiles/2013/08/13/11024983/Diversion-study.pdf>

Krista Dunn, Deputy Chief of Police, Salt Lake City Police Department, spoke about the CIT program and the training available for CIT.

Sen. Christensen, along with Rep. Cosgrove, commented on Ms. Dunn's work in saving and serving the veterans and helping them with intervention.

#### **6. Contract Provider COLAs – Issue Brief**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001932.pdf>

Stephen Jardine, Fiscal Analyst, referred to the Issue Brief. There was no action required.

#### **7. Fees in the Department of Human Services – Issue Brief**

<http://le.utah.gov/interim/2014/pdf/00001405.pdf>

Mr. Jardine referred to the summary portion of the Issue Brief and the statutory reference and reviewed the recommendation by the analyst. There was some conversation between Sen. Christensen and Mr. Jardine.

Rep. Cosgrove questioned how the additional revenue would be implemented since it isn't in the Governor's budget.

Liesa Stockdale, Director, Office of Recovery Services (ORS), Department of Human Services (DHS), commented on the fee amounts and stated that the fee amount is what would be spent totally to run the Title IV-D program (under the federal Social Security Act) compared to the number of cases currently in the Title IV-D program. She clarified that this additional fee revenue would be used specifically for technology security services and also modernizing ORS systems. Ms. Stockdale and Mark Brasher continued to discuss the fees with Rep. Cosgrove.

Sen. Henderson commented on the fees motion and asked Geoff Landward, Deputy Director, Department of Workforce Services, to comment on a motion Sen. Henderson just passed out. She continued to explain the motion and Mr. Landward also added to the clarification and possible implementation of the option. There continued to be discussion about the issue. Sen. Christensen asked for clarification on an open child support case and how that affects eligibility for food stamps. Ms. Stockdale from ORS clarified and also emphasized the resulting increase in ORS caseloads and computer redesign costs if this is made mandatory. Sen. Henderson responded to that comment.

Sen. Robles asked for a scenario on how this affects just adults from DWS. Mr. Landward explained the situation. Sen. Robles and Mr. Landward talked about the number of people in the household and the effect of that. There was more discussion.

Sen. Henderson reiterated the point that it only impacts those who refuse to comply.

Rep. Cosgrove suggested to Mr. Landward that in order to ensure that kids are not lost that maybe intent language would help this as a pilot program. Rep. Cosgrove then continued with some follow up. Mr. Landward replied that this is an optional eligibility requirement and could be done through the rule-making authority. He continued to clarify questions by Rep. Cosgrove.

Sen. Henderson suggested putting the motion off until this afternoon.

Sen. Christensen concurred.

**MOTION:** Rep. Menlove moved to approve the underlying Fees for the Department of Human Services as stated in the issue Brief – Jan 23, 2014, 2:30 P.M.

Motion passed unanimously with Sen. Knudson, President Niederhauser, Sen. Shiozawa, Rep. McCay, Rep. Chavez-Houck, Rep. Dee, and Rep. Tanner absent for the vote.

**8. What Doing to Encourage Efficiency – Follow up on Discussion During 2013 General Session (Department of Workforce Services - DWS)**

Geoff Landward discussed the DWS pay-for-performance program and the implementation of a new more traditional incentive program to encourage high performance and efficiencies among the employees. He continued to speak about the changes in the upcoming program to be able to fund the administrative salary increases for the high performers in the department. He continued to explain more cost saving and efficient measures taken by DWS.

**9. What Doing to Encourage Efficiency – Follow up on Discussion During 2013 General Session (Utah State Office of Rehabilitation - USOR)**

Russ Thelin, Executive Director, Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) discussed the Bright Idea Cards and indicated there are 26 ideas that have been shared. There are rewards and varying types of recognition for those ideas. He talked about the efficiencies that have come about and gave examples of those. Currently there are 18 ideas being implemented. Mr. Thelin also spoke about a staff committee organized to help increase efficiencies.

Sen. Christensen stated that the Health Department will present this afternoon.

**MOTION:** Rep. Menlove moved to adjourn.

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Co-Chair Christensen adjourned the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

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Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Co-Chair  
Chair

Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove, Co-